

# Media Release

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Independent Schools  
Council of Australia

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## Independent Schools Welcomes the Implementation of the BER

The Deputy Prime Minister's announcement that the Australian Government has begun to implement Round One of the National School Pride (NSP) program, a key component of the Building the Education Revolution (BER), will greatly benefit independent school communities.

Executive Director of the Independent Schools Council of Australia, Bill Daniels said that the independent sector was grateful for the additional funding provided by the BER and was pleased to be included in the program.

"Schools from all sectors have been successful under Round One of the NSP program. Today's announcement is testament to the inclusive nature of the BER", said Mr Daniels.

"There is a high level of demand for capital investment in the independent schools sector due to sustained enrolment growth in the sector over the past two decades. Other factors affecting capital costs are curriculum change, the push for smaller class sizes and rising building costs."

"Around 82 per cent of the capital investment in independent schools comes from parents through fees, fundraising and donations. The contribution of governments remains a vital component of capital development in the sector."

"The sector looks forward to continuing to work in partnership with the Australian Government as well as state and territory governments to ensure that schools will benefit from the ongoing implementation of the BER," concluded Mr Daniels.

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